

2013 Needs Assessment for Tallapoosa County

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Accomplishments

Partnered with Tallapoosa County Board of Education to provide a Truancy Officer for the county schools. We used part of the AT-Riskfunds to do this. Truancy dropped by 25% in three semesters. Partnered with the Alexander City Board of Education to provide Parent Project for The Alexander City School system.

Partnered with two Alexander City dentist for Dental Health Month in February. The two , along with the Chair of UAB School of Dentistry, conducted teeth screening in all of the Alexander city and Tallapoosa County School K-6. The dental health has improved during the last three year that we have had this project. Each student received a dental kit.

A new program was introduced in the Alexander City lower grades. Twenty students who were having some discipline problems were selected to take a Marshall Arts course. It was amazing to see how their behavior changed. We will follow up on the students this next school years.

Online safety training in local middle schools.

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First Priority

Need related to children of this county

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Save-A-Life Staff School counselors Tri-County Children's Advocacy Center Online safety training and counselors DYS DHR Juvenile Probation Officers Boys and Girls clubs Churches	Funding for youth programs Leaders to work with youth in special programs Transportation to and from programs

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Host a marriage and parent workshop.
2. More coordinated efforts dealing with teen pregnancy
3. Develop intervention programs to target the groups at an early stage
4. Support groups with teens to understand the underlying issues that lead to this outcome

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

Decrease High School Dropout Rate

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Schools Parent Project DHR Law enforcement United Way agencies Churches Community agencies Tri-County Children's Advocacy Center Alabama Youth Services Juvenile Probation Officers Truancy Intervention Program Healthy Families/CPC	Funding GED programs throughout the county Education at an early age More trained Parent Project Leaders

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Research needed programs
2. Work with HIPPY
3. Numerous Parent Project sessions during school term
4. Alex City Schools to partner with local industries to promote workforce development among students in grades 6-12

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

Reduce Substance Use/Abuse by Pre-Teens

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Prevention Programs in early grades (DARE, GREAT) East Alabama Mental Health Services Tobacco Free Alabama in schools Health/Safety Committee Tri-County Children's Advocacy-Dadeville Red Ribbon Week	More certified trainers Funding Parent Participation Compliance Training for Teachers

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Disseminate drug trend information to churches and other children's organizations.
2. Continue meeting through "chat sessions"
3. Videos that youth develop and participate in